

CLAIMS

1. A method comprising:

determining, during a base station monitoring procedure, if a signal transmitted by a base station currently transmitting data to a communications device is received at a communications device according to an adequate quality, and, if the signal received is not of an adequate quality, determining if a signal transmitted by at least one other base station in a list of identified base stations is received according to an adequate quality at said communications device, and, if a signal of adequate quality of at least one other base station is not received at said communications device, performing a base station identification procedure.

2. The method of claim 1, wherein said performing a base station identification procedure includes a base station search.

3. The method of claim 1, wherein performing said base station identification procedure comprises:

if a first time interval has passed, performing a base station identification procedure for a first time period, and if a second time interval has passed, the second time interval being longer than the first time interval, performing a base station identification procedure for a second time period, the second time period being longer than the first time period.

4. The method of claim 3, wherein performing said base station identification procedure for a second time period comprises performing an extended base station identification procedure.

5. The method of claim 3, comprising determining at said initial time interval, the initial time interval being shorter than said first time interval, if a signal received from at least one other base station in a list of identified base stations is received according to an adequate quality

at said communications device, and, if said at least one other signal of adequate quality is not received by said communications device, performing a base station identification procedure.

6. The method of claim 5, wherein performing a base station identification procedure comprises performing a limited base station identification procedure.
7. The method of claim 1, comprising determining signal quality adequacy of a signal received from an identified base station by comparing the signal quality of a signal received from an identified base station to a predetermined threshold.
8. An apparatus, comprising:
 - a controller capable of determining, during a base station monitoring procedure, if a signal transmitted by a base station currently transmitting data to a mobile device is received according to an adequate quality, and, if the signal received is not of adequate quality, determining if at least one other base station in a list of identified base stations transmits a signal which is received according to an adequate quality, and, if said at least one other base station does not transmit a signal which is received according to an adequate quality, performing a base station identification procedure.
9. The apparatus of claim 8, wherein said controller is capable of scanning a set of SYNC channels for further base stations.
10. The apparatus of claim 9, wherein the controller is capable of, if a first interval has passed, scanning a set of SYNC channels for a first time period, and is capable of, if a second interval has passed, the second interval being longer than the first interval, scanning a set of SYNC channels for a second time period, the second time period being longer than the first time period.

11. The apparatus of claim 9, wherein the controller is capable of performing an extended base station identification procedure during said second time period.
12. The apparatus of claim 8, wherein said controller is capable of determining signal quality adequacy according to a predetermined threshold.
13. The apparatus of claim 8, wherein said controller is capable of determining, at an initial interval, the initial interval being shorter than said first interval, if at least one other base station in a list of identified base stations transmits a signal which is received according to an adequate quality, and is capable of, if said at least one other signal of adequate quality is not received, scanning a set of SYNC channels for further base stations.
14. The apparatus of claim 13, wherein said scanning a set of SYNC channels for further base stations comprises performing a limited base station identification procedure.
15. A system, comprising:
a dipole antenna; and
a controller capable of determining, during a cell monitoring procedure, if a signal transmitted by a base station currently transmitting data to a mobile device is received according to an adequate quality, and, if the signal received is not of an adequate quality, capable of determining if at least one other base station in a list of identified base stations transmits a signal which is received according to an adequate quality, and, if said signal of adequate quality is not received, capable of performing a base station identification procedure.
16. The system of claim 15, wherein the controller, if a first interval has passed, is capable of scanning a set of SYNC channels for a first time period, and if a second interval has passed, the second interval being

longer than the first interval, is capable of scanning a set of SYNC channels for a second time period, the second time period being longer than the first time period.

17. The system of claim 15, wherein said controller is capable of determining signal adequacy according to a predetermined threshold.

an article comprising a storage medium having stored thereon instructions that, when executed by a processing platform, result in:

determining during a base station monitoring procedure if a signal from a base station currently transmitting data to a communications device is received by said communication device according to an adequate quality;

if said signal received is not of adequate quality, determining if at least one other base station in a list of identified base stations transmits a signal which is received by said communication device according to an adequate quality; and

if said at least one other base station does not transmit a signal which is received by said communication device according to an adequate quality, scanning a set of SYNC channels for further base stations.

18. The article of claim 17, wherein the instructions, when executed by the processing platform, result in, if a first interval has passed, scanning a set of SYNC channels for a first time period, and if a second interval has passed, the second interval being longer than the first interval, scanning a set of SYNC channels for a second time period, the second time period being longer than the first time period.

19. The article of claim 17, wherein the instructions, when executed by the processing platform, result in determining signal adequacy according to a predetermined threshold.

20. A method comprising:

during a base station monitoring procedure, at a base station evaluation interval, performing a multi-path search to determine whether at least one identified neighboring base station transmits a signal which is received by a communication device according to an adequate quality.

21. The method of claim 20, comprising, in the case where the received signal from said multi-path search does not meet a selected criterion, performing a base station identification procedure.
22. The method of claim 20, comprising executing said multi-path search over a buffer of recorded samples.
23. The method of claim 20, comprising, at a second interval being greater than said base station evaluation interval, performing an extended base station identification procedure.
24. The method of claim 20, comprising at a base station measurement interval:
performing a multi-path search;
evaluating the results of said search; and
if signals being received to said communication device do not meet pre-selected criteria, performing a base station identification procedure.